

MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 184

LIBRARY
STATE PLANT BOARD

August, 1929

TRUCK CROP INSECTS

J. E. Graf, in Charge

N. F. Howard, Columbus, Ohio, in company with Rodney Cecil (Geneva, N. Y.), L. W. Brannon (Norfolk, Va.) and P. D. Sanders and W. T. Henery (University of Maryland, College Park), made an inspection of the bean fields on the Eastern Shore of Maryland on August 12 to 15, to observe the results that the commercial growers are obtaining in the control of the Mexican bean beetle.

N. F. Howard visited Estancia, N. M., August 19, where he conferred with J. R. Douglass regarding investigations of the Mexican bean beetle in the West. From Estancia he went to Alhambra, Calif., where, in company with R. E. Campbell, in charge of the field laboratory there, he made a survey of bean growing.

M. C. Lane, in charge of the field laboratory at Walla Walla, Wash., attended a conference of the Governors of the Western States at Salt Lake City, Utah, on August 26 and 27, where he delivered a talk on wireworms as pests on the irrigated lands of the West.

R. A. Fulton has been appointed Agent, to undertake chemical studies on the sugar-beet leafhopper at Twin Falls, Idaho.

H. P. Lanchester has been appointed Junior Entomologist and assigned to work on wireworm investigations at Parma, Idaho.

C. F. Stahl has been reinstated as Entomologist and assigned to work on the problem of the strawberry root aphid at Chadbourn, N. C.

C. T. McCoy, F. A. Haasis, and C. E. Post have been appointed temporary field assistants for duty at Twin Falls, Idaho, Berkeley, Calif., and Las Cruces, N. M., respectively.

A. J. Salle has been appointed temporary agent and assigned to work at Berkeley, Calif., in connection with investigations of the sugar-beet leafhopper.

H. E. Wallace has been transferred from Twin Falls, Idaho, to Riverside, Calif., where he will inaugurate work on the sugar-beet leafhopper.

BEE CULTURE

Jas. I. Hambleton, in Charge

E. L. Sechrist left Washington on July 15 for an extended trip throughout the Intermountain States, where he will check up the work done by the various cooperators who are assisting in the study of the cost of honey production. The results of this work have been very gratifying. Later in the fall R. S. Kifer, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, which is cooperating in these studies, will make the final visit to all cooperators. At the completion of this year's work in the Intermountain States a similar study will be begun in the white-clover region, and the work in the two regions will be carried on simultaneously for a number of years. En route to Washington, Mr. Sechrist will judge the bee and honey exhibit of the Wisconsin State Fair, at Milwaukee.

On June 11 Dr. E. F. Phillips, formerly Senior Apiculturist in charge of the Division of Bee Culture Investigations, was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by his Alma Mater, Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa.

Dr. H. E. Earnard, President of the American Honey Institute, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on August 2, to discuss with members of the staff various problems in which the Honey Institute is interested.

J. E. Eckert, of the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Laramie, Wyo., has completed the summer's work on the flight range of the honeybee, which he has been conducting at Powell, Wyo.

Dr. Warren Whitcomb, Jr., of the Southern States Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Eaton Rouge, La., attended the meeting of the Texas State Beekeepers' Association, College Station, Tex., on July 29 to 30. In conjunction with this meeting, Doctor Whitcomb also attended the meeting of the Texas Association of Queenbreeders and Bee Dealers.

Dr. Warren Whitcomb, Jr., and Dr. E. Oertel, of the Southern States Bee Culture Field Laboratory, appeared on the program of the meeting of the Louisiana State Beekeepers' Association, held at Baton Rouge on August 7 and 8. This meeting was held in connection with Farmers' Week at the College of Agriculture of Louisiana State University.

W. J. Nolan, while on annual leave, attended the meetings of the Apis Club held in Berlin, Germany, August 9 to 12. He reports that it was one of the best meetings ever held by the Apis Club, with practically all of the prominent beekeeping investigators of Europe in attendance. Representatives from 21 countries were present.

W. J. Nolan judged the bee and honey exhibit at the Ohio State Fair, at Columbus, on August 26 and 27. The display was unusually fine, as the honey crop was the best in several years.

Dr. W. W. Alpatov, of the University of Moscow, who has been studying in this country for the past two years as a Research Fellow of the International Education Board, has recently returned to Russia. On numerous occasions Doctor Alpatov consulted with the members of the staff of the Bee Culture Laboratory concerning his researches on the biometrics of the honeybee. He will continue his investigations in Russia.

Jas. I. Hambleton appeared on the program of the Vermont State Beekeepers' Association at their annual meeting held at Barre, Vt., on August 30. The Association signified its willingness to compile a list of all beekeepers in the State of Vermont. This list will be available in checking the returns of enumerators in the 1930 census, when every effort will be made to compile reliable statistics on bees and honey.

E. J. Hambleton, of Cornell University, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on August 27, en route to the State of Minas Geraes, Brazil, where he will organize and conduct courses in entomology and apiculture at the Escola Superior de Agricultura e Veterinaria, at Viçosa.

Through the intermediary of the Brazilian Ambassador and the Secretary of State of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture was requested to suggest the name of a specialist capable of locating, organizing, and conducting an agricultural college on the "United States plan." Dr. P. H. Rolfs, formerly Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Dean of the Florida State College of Agriculture, was selected for this important mission. During the 11 years in which Doctor Rolfs has been administrative head of the college it has made great progress, and in the year about to begin special courses in entomology, apiculture, animal husbandry, and plant pathology are to be organized.

Mrs. Richardson and Miss Theresa Dansdell, who are assisting Dr. H. E. Barnard, President of the American Honey Institute, in his work of organizing the White House Conference on Child Health, of which he is the executive secretary, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on August 23 to study the system used by the Laboratory in cataloging beekeeping literature.

FOREST INSECTS

F. C. Craighead, in Charge

Dr. Craighead returned about the middle of August from a trip of inspection of the western field laboratories. About 10 days were spent in Idaho and Montana, and a similar length of time in northeastern California.

L. G. Baumhofer reports that a large number of Campoplex individuals have been reared and introduced into more remote regions of the Halsey, Nebr., plantations, where the tip moth is abundant. Campoplex is an eastern parasite of the tip moth; it has been successfully established in these plantations at Halsey, and is doing very effective work.

R. A. St. George reports from Asheville, N. C., that the southern pine beetle has been particularly abundant this year. The dry season has apparently been favorable to it, and local outbreaks have occurred in many places from Virginia south through the Piedmont region.

Dr. T. E. Snyder left Washington August 28 for Berkeley, Calif., to consult with Dr. S. F. Light, of the Termite Investigations Committee of the University of California, and Dr. A. E. Emerson, of the University of Chicago. From September 1 to September 14 conferences are to be held to discuss the fundamental principles of termite control. Dr. Snyder is expected to return to Washington about September 20.

Contributions from the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory

In the last News Letter it was reported that C. W. Collins was seriously ill. At the present time his condition is slightly improved, but he is still in the hospital in a critical condition.

Dr. Craighead, and Dr. H. J. MacAloney, in charge of the field laboratory at Amherst, Mass., were at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory on August 27 and 28. Dr. Craighead discussed the Laboratory projects with various members of the staff.

Dr. Alvah Peterson, Professor of Entomology at Ohio State University, spent August 6 and 7 at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, acquiring information as to the parasite work being done there.

Other visitors at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory in August included K. A. Bartlett, of the corn-borer field laboratory at Arlington, Mass., August 26, and W. A. Osgood, engaged in work on moths for the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, and C. C. Plummer, of the entomological department of the University of New Hampshire, August 29.

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS

F. C. Bishopp, in Charge

H. Bennett Johnston, of the Wellcome Laboratories, Khartoum, Sudan, visited Washington August 12. Part of his time was spent with F. C. Bishopp, discussing the work of the Bureau on cotton insects, especially with reference to the character and type of injury to cotton produced by plant bugs, and discussing the situation in Khartoum regarding parasites of the pink bollworm.

G. W. Bruce aided in the handling and demonstration of the Department Exhibit at the Illinois State Fair at Springfield, August 17 to 24.

During the greater part of August O. G. Eabcock carried on a survey of pests of livestock and poultry in western Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico.

On August 9 F. C. Bishopp took Major P. R. Hawley, M. C. U. S. Army, and Dr. Siribaed Bisuddhi, of Siam, to the Marine Station at Quantico to look over the operations there on control of mosquitoes. Captain R. G. Heiner, M. C. U. S. Navy, very kindly arranged for a special demonstration of airplane dusting of a swamp area. This treatment is carried out as a routine procedure in the antianopheline work under way on the Quantico reservation. Major Hawley is in charge of the sanitary work of the survey for a Nicaraguan canal, which the Army was recently authorized to carry out.

G. H. Bradley made a trip to Portland, Oreg., August 10 to 20, to conduct an inquiry into the mosquito situation along the Columbia River.

D. G. Hall, of Coachella, Calif., spent the greater part of August at the field laboratory at Uvalde, Tex. While there he devoted some time to a study of the large collection of sarcophagids captured in the trapping experiments which E. W. Laake and E. C. Cushing are carrying on in Menard County, Tex.

INSECT PEST SURVEY

J. A. Hyslop, in Charge

On Tuesday, August 6, Dr. Marlatt gave a 15-minute talk over the radio entitled "Insect War." During the last week in July and early in August the following entomological subjects were treated in connection with the radio program listed under "Farm and Garden Calendar": Fleas, the stable fly or biting house fly, the corn ear worm as a pest of cotton, the Mexican bean beetle, mosquitoes, and aphids on turnips, kale, and cabbage.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECTS

A. L. Quaintance, in Charge

H. G. Butler, Assistant Entomologist, who is associated with Dr. P. M. Gilmer in investigations of apple insects at Wichita, Kans., attended the sixth annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Entomologists, held at Pinegree Park, Colo., August 19 to 24.

O. I. Snapp, Entomologist in charge of the field laboratory at Fort Valley, Ga., for the study of peach insects, visited Washington during the week of August 20 to discuss plans of work for the coming season. He will shortly return to Fort Valley.

Contributions from the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory

On August 8 H. K. Plank, of Cuba, and Dr. T. L. Guyton, of Harrisburg, Pa., visited the Laboratory to confer with members of the parasite division concerning biological control.

On August 26 seventeen members of the Philadelphia Horticultural Society visited the Laboratory. The work of the three major divisions of it was explained to them, E. R. Van Leeuwen telling them about beetle insecticides, J. K. Holloway about parasites, and Max Osburn about soil insecticides.

On August 26, also, Dr. Shiro Tashiro, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Cincinnati, Ohio, visited the Laboratory.

On August 28, E. J. Hambleton, of the School of Agriculture, Vigosa, Minas Geraes, Brazil, spent the afternoon at the Laboratory.

George Edward Spencer, Associate Entomologist engaged in physiological work at the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory, died August 29, shortly after an operation for cancer of the stomach. Mr. Spencer had been associated with the work of this laboratory for the last seven years. He is survived by a wife and three young children.

The Oriental Peach Moth Laboratory at Moorestown, N. J., is co-operating with the field laboratory at Vincennes, Ind., and the State entomological services of Indiana and Connecticut, in making experimental liberations of Macrocentrus ancyliivora in peach districts newly infested with the oriental peach moth. Over 3,000 adult parasites have been shipped to these points, and have arrived at their destination in good condition, with low mortality in transit.

From parasite-infested material collected from the Oriental Peach Moth Laboratory at Moorestown in June, Prof. J. J. Davis, of Purdue University, reports that 500 Macrocentrus ancyliivora were obtained for liberations in orchards in Indiana, and that 22 per cent parasitism of this species has already been obtained in collections made for recovery of the parasite.

Dr. Philip Garman, of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, spent several days late in July collecting strawberry leaf-roller larvae at the Moorestown Laboratory. He obtained 7,000 heavily parasitized larvae, and hopes to get a heavy emergence of Macrocentrus ancyliivora for liberation in orchards in Connecticut.

Dr. H. W. Allen and A. C. Hcdson, who have been investigating the influence of parasitism on infestation by the oriental peach moth in New Jersey, have found the parasitism of twig-infesting larvae to have been very high, in some collections reaching 100 per cent. The infestation of fruit up to August 25 had not exceeded 11 per cent, including both visible and invisible injury, for any variety.

TAXONOMY

Harold Morrison, in Charge

J. D. Sherman, Jr., of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and his daughter visited the Division of Insects, August 6 and 7, on business relating to the purchase of various books from the estate of H. G. Dyar.

H. K. Plank, of the Tropical Plant Research Foundation, Central Baragua, Baragua, Camaguey Province, Cuba, consulted with several of the specialists in the Taxonomic Unit on August 6 and 7.

H. Bennett Johnston, of the Gezira Research Farm, Wad Medani, Sudan, Africa, called at the Museum August 12 to consult with the bureau specialists A. B. Gahan and A. N. Caudell.

Dr. T. B. Mitchell, of the department of zoology and entomology, North Carolina State College, at Raleigh, came to Washington August 1 and 21 to examine certain types of bees of the genus *Megachile* in the National collection. He has in progress a revision of the North American species of this genus.

H. G. Earber, of Roselle Park, N. J., spent several days in the early part of August working on Hemiptera in the Museum collections.

Dr. J. M. Aldrich, of the staff of the U. S. National Museum, returned to Washington on August 23, after spending three months in Europe on entomological work. In the course of his trip Dr. Aldrich examined type specimens of many flies in various museums, including the British Museum and the museums in Stockholm, Copenhagen, and Paris, and in private collections, including those of Collins in England, Lundbeck in Denmark, and Villeneuve near Paris.

H. S. Barber, of the Bureau staff, spent much of August sorting out specimens of insects at the Brooklyn Museum, including many types which are being brought to Washington. These are to be associated with the National Museum collections, where they will be available to the Bureau taxonomic specialists and other workers.

COTTON INSECTS

B. R. Coad, in Charge

On August 29 B. R. Coad and J. M. Yeates left Tallulah, La., for the West. Mr. Coad will spend considerable time looking over the investigational work on the pink bollworm in western Texas and Old Mexico, and on the Thurberia weevil in Arizona.

Professor T. H. Hubbell, of the University of Florida, visited the field laboratory at Tallulah on August 18.

In August the temporary appointments as field assistants of B. A. Moers, W. H. Rumff, O. H. Graham, R. P. Patty and J. C. Sherwin were terminated. Temporary appointments as field assistants have recently been given Edward Smith, J. F. Cooper, and C. C. Kimberlin, Jr.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECTS

W. H. Larrimer, in Charge

George G. Ainslie, Collaborator, formerly of the field laboratory at Knoxville, Tenn., spent August 27 to 31 at the Washington office, in conference and in preparation of manuscript.

Ralph Mathes has accepted an appointment as Junior Entomologist, for duty at the Monroe, Mich., corn borer laboratory, effective August 5.

W. H. Larrimer spent August 28 to 31 at the field laboratory at Lafayette, Ind., in consultation with C. M. Packard and Prof. J. J. Davis regarding a manuscript on the Hessian fly in the State of Indiana.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

NEW BOOKS

Abot, Gustave.

Catalogue des Coléoptères observés dans le Département de Maine-et-Loire. 386 p. Paris, Paul Lechevalier, 1928.

Assmuss, Eduard.

Die Parasiten der Honigbiene und die durch dieselben bedingten Krankheiten dieses Insects . . . 56 p., 3 pl. Berlin, Ernst Schotte & Co., 1865.

Fauna van Nederland Afl. II. Homoptera (QXXI) A. Jassidae, Membracidae.

By H. C. Blöte. 143 p., illus. Leiden, A. W. Sijthoffs, 1927.

Fauna van Nederland Afl. IV. Hymenoptera anthophila (QXIIIm) A. Andrena.

By J. van der Vecht. 144 p., illus. Leiden, A. W. Sijthoffs, 1928.

Faust, E. C.

Human helminthology: A manual for clinicians, sanitarians and medical zoölogists. 616 p., illus. Philadelphia, Lea & Febiger, 1929.

Grote, A. R., and Robinson, C. T.

List of Lepidoptera of North America. XVI p. Philadelphia, American Entomological Society, 1868.

Handschin, Eduard.

Praktische Einführung in die Morphologie der Insekten . . . (mit einem Atlas von 23 Tafeln). 112 p. Berlin, Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1928.

International corn borer investigations. Scientific reports, v. 2.

The first international corn borer conference at the Pasteur Institute, April 25-27, 1929. Edited by Tage Ellinger. 21 p. Chicago, International Live Stock Exposition, Union Stock Yards, 1929.

Jarvis, Edmund.

Some notes on the economy of cockchafer beetles. 49 p. (incl. 6 pl.). Brisbane, Anthony James Comming, Govt. Printer, 1929. (Queensland Bureau of Sugar Expt. Sta. Div. of Ent. Bul. No. 20.)

Johnson, M. E., and Snook, H. J.

Seashore animals of the Pacific Coast. 652 p., illus. New York, Macmillan, 1927.

Jordan, D. S.

Manual of the vertebrate animals of the northeastern United States, inclusive of marine species. Ed. 13. 446 p. Yonkers-on-Hudson, N. Y., World Book Co., 1929.

Lang, Hugo.

Lang's German-English dictionary of terms used in medicine and the allied sciences. Ed. 3, enlarged. 613 p. Philadelphia, Blakiston, [c1924].

Lewis, G. C., comp.

How to market honey. Ed. 2. 40 p., illus. Watertown, Wis., Jansky Printing Co., 1926.

Lubbock, John.

Ants, bees and wasps, new edition based on seventeenth, edited and annotated by J. G. Myers. 377 p., 6 pl. (4 col.). New York, Dutton, 1929.

Meigen, J. W.

Systematische Beschreibung der europäischen Schmetterlinge . . . 276 p., 125 pl. Aachen und Leipzig, J. U. Mayer, 1829.

Mellen, Ida.

Roof gardening. 115 p., illus. New York, A. T. de La Mare Co., 1929. (Chapter II, Insects and diseases, p. 33-36.)

Merian, M. S.

Der rupsen begin, voedzel en wonderbaare verandering. 3 v. in 1, 150 pl. Amsterdam, Gerard Valk, 1678.

Paterson, J. W.

Nature in farming. Ed. 3. 226 p., illus. Perth, F. M. Simpson, Govt. Printer, 1929. (Chapter 39, Insects and their attacks.)

Porter, G. S.

Moths of the Limberlost. 370 p., illus. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Page & Co., 1912.

Robertson, Charles.

Flowers and insects. Lists of visitors of four hundred and fifty-three flowers. 221 p. Carlinville, Ill., 1928. [c1929.]

Schiffermueller, Ignaz, and Denis, J. N. C. M.

Systematische Verzeichniss der Schmetterlinge der Wienergegend . . . 322 p., 1 col. pl. Wien, Bernardi, 1776.

Société Royale Entomologique d'Égypte. Bulletin n. s. Année 1928, v. 12. 98 p., 24 pl. Le Caire, P. Barbey, 1929.

Sudan Government. Wellcome Tropical Research Laboratories. Report of the Government Entomologist [H. H. King] for the year 1927. 7 p. 1928. (Entomological Section. Bul. No. 25.)